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For more information about similar programmes that are run across the country, contact one of the following provincial offices:

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Workshop to promote transport safety

By Itumeleng Bogatsu: GCIS, Gauteng

As part of Transport Month, Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department (EMPD), South African Police Service (SAPS), Gauteng Traffic Police officers, Emergency Management Services (EMS) and scholar-transport drivers, hosted a Learner Transportation Workshop at the EMPD precinct station in Birchleigh, to promote learner-transport safety. The event took place On 3 October 2017.

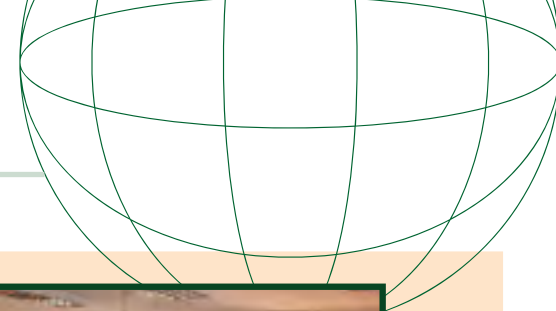
The aim of the event was to address the scholar-transport drivers' negative effects of overloading, worn-out tyres, over speeding and reckless driving, and all other issues that could lead to accidents.

The scholar-transport drivers were educated on complying with the National Road Traffic Act, 1996 (Act 93 of 1996) with emphasis on the fitness the drivers and the roadworthiness of the vehicles, the stringent observance of the rules of the road, overloading and playing of loud music which, is a distraction to the drivers.

Safety presentations by various government departments displaying the result of some avoidable car crashes, resulting in life threatening dangers in a form of loss of life, the terrible emotional impact on the parents, learners and relatives alike, and not forgetting the millions of rand it costs government to process these crashes.

All stakeholders agreed to play their part in ensuring that a safer scholar transport is realised in the interest of the future leaders of our beloved country.

Learner transporters were informed of Regulation 231 of National Road Transport Association, which calculates number of passengers to be ferried.



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The entrance leading to the main hall.



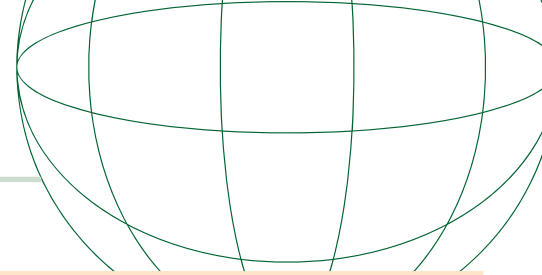
Community members at the event.



A police officer giving the fatality statistics.



GCIS's Itumeleng Bogatsu talking about children's rights.



Nomphithi Mtshali said:

“Accidents are mostly caused by speeding, unroadworthy vehicles, use of cellphones while driving, distracted driving, overloading and disregard of seating capacity of a vehicle. Drivers must be properly licensed to drive the specific class of vehicle, must hold a PDP, and must have a first-aid kit. He/she can never be found to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.”



Presenters from EMPD, SAPS, GCIS, EMS at the event.



Part of the audience at the event.



Nico Maritz said:

“People tend to think festive season starts in December, but the truth is it starts from October onwards and we want to warn people that this year the beginning of November we will be visible everywhere, any person found to be contravening the law will be arrested on the spot and the vehicle will be impounded.”



Different service providers at the event.



Mmamethlake Aerobics group.



GCIS official Todani Livhuwani getting tested by a health official.

OUTCOME 2: A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE FOR ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

Open day prioritises community health and wellness

By Todani Livhuwani: GCIS, Limpopo

The community and traditional leaders of Mmamethlake under the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality celebrated the Mmamethlake Hospital Open Day. The event took place on 19 October 2017. During the State of the Province Address, the Premier of Mpumalanga, David Mabuza, promised the community of Mmamethlake that the provincial government will prioritise the upgrade and renovation of Mmamethlake Hospital to ensure that communities receive improved health services and good infrastructure.

The main aim of the event was to showcase the services rendered by the hospital to the community. Citizens were encouraged to visit different service providers at their respective stalls to receive first-hand information about services they offer. They also interacted with the hospital's management.

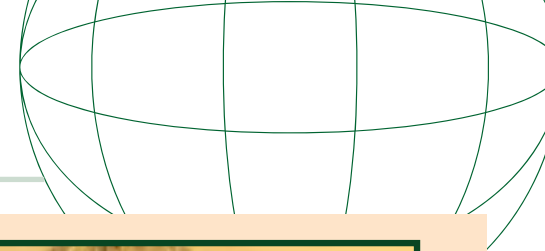
“As health practitioners, we want our community to voice out their experiences, good or bad, as our work should be guided by Batho Pele principles,” said the hospital CEO.

The Executive Mayor of the Dr JS Moroka, William Madileng, congratulated the hospital management for organising the open day. He said that 2017 is a year of OR Tambo, therefore people should be served in line with Tambo's envisaged South Africa. He also requested officials not to turn away people when they come to seek medical attention and healthcare services. The hospital exhibited different services that they render, such as testing diabetics, tuberculosis, Human Immuno-deficiency Virus and eyesight. Other government and private stakeholders also rendered their services at the event.

The community welcomed and appreciated the open day.



Government officials at the event.



Jack Monama said:

"I am happy about the event. I used to spend lots of money to buy my treatment, not aware that our hospital gives the medicine for free."



Philemon Masetha said:

"I am happy about the open day. As a pensioner I received a free toothpaste and sunblock cream. I also managed to renew my South African Social Security Agency grant card for free. Now I know where to report my complaints about the hospital."



Traditional leaders and community members gathered at Mmamethlake Hospital.



Community members accessing different services at the event.



Some of the services rendered at Mmamethlake Hospital.



Gadibolae Ntokwe said:

"I am grateful for the information that we have received today. I hope these sessions will be conducted from time-to-time to help build our nation."



Moses Phillander said:

"I just hope that one day government will make this land (Wendtzel Dam) a monument."

OUTCOME 12: AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ORIENTATED PUBLIC SERVICE AND AN EMPOWERED, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE

Government reaches out to community members

By Fatima Modise: GCIS, North West

On 17 October 2017, Government Communication and Information System, together with the North West Office of The Premier, Department of Culture, Arts and Traditional Affairs (CATA), Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality and Mamusa Local Municipality held an information-sharing session for the community of Schweizer Reneke. The event took place on 17 October 2017 and was aimed at popularising the OR Tambo centenary, Transport Month key messages, tackling crime and corruption and also to address ethnicity issues.

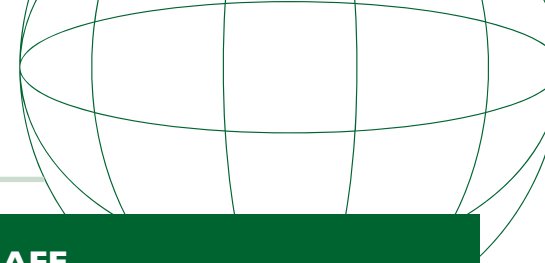
The Mayor of Mamusa Local Municipality, Aaron Motswana, gave a short background on the history of Wendtzel dam. "Many years ago during the apartheid era, 132 Koranas were killed during the fight over the land, which is Schweizer Reneke and they were buried here in Wendtzel Dam, but the reality about the people who originally owned this land is not going to be easy because besides the Koranas, there were Boers, Basotho, Barolong and Batlhaping. For us to reach reconciliation healing and renewal, we need to bring together all these tribes, unite them and live together and forget about the past," he said.



Some of the people who attended the event.



Mayor Aaron Motswana addressing the audience.



Jonathan Jonas said:

"It is my third year competing in the competition. I work for Triton Express and it is always an honour. I am looking forward to this year's competition. It is a learning process, you always learn more and that helps in making a difference in our roads."



Zodonia Olivier said:

"I participated in this competition for the first time last year. Today, I am a little bit nervous. My father was the Springbok Driver of The Year at the time, which gave me the courage to enter. I work for Go-George, and every day when I am driving a bus, I know that it is not only my safety I need to care about but commuters as well."

OUTCOME 3: ALL PEOPLE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE AND FEEL SAFE

Competition to encourage responsible driving

By Jethro Grootboom: GCIS, Western Cape

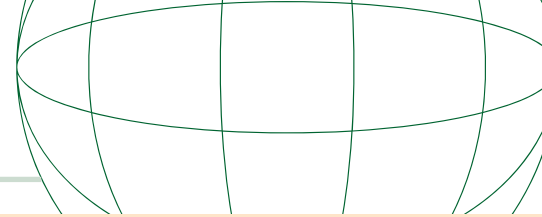
Transport Month is observed in October every year. The 2017 event is hosted under the theme: "Together we move South Africa Forward". During this month, the Department of Transport and its entities showcase transport infrastructure services in aviation; maritime; public transport and roads. The different events will also be used to further advance the country's road safety initiatives, while also creating awareness on the economic benefits of the sector.

Professional truck and bus drivers had to endure stringent tests on the day. They were competing in the Driver of the Year competition in George in the Southern Cape. The event promotes responsible driving and road safety.

The campaign involved stakeholders such as the Provincial Department of Transport, the business sector and the George Municipal Traffic Police. The event does not only test the skills of drivers but also highlights road safety. About 60 drivers participated in this year's event. The public came out in their numbers to enjoy themselves.



Instructors and judges giving drivers the rules and requirements of the competition.



Hilton Olivier said:

"I started in 2000, where I was also selected for the National Team. But because of lack of funding, we were unable to go and compete overseas. This year, I am not participating, but I am an instructor for the company called TMO. Road safety is everyone's business."



Competition prizes and stakeholders who sponsored the campaign.



Different stakeholders showcasing their services at their respective stalls.